

EVENING LEDGER

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Look Out For Red Herring

TAXPAYERS are determined to have rapid transit. They will not be lured out of it. Any schemes, therefore, involving the expenditure of large sums of city money should be viewed with the gravest suspicion.

"Safety First" for Penroseism

THE Old Guard is out for halos, or anything at all that looks well and costs nothing—a little stolen altar fire to blind the public eye to facts. John P. Connelly dons the mantle of Judge Lindsay, drops a sob over the delinquent child and negotiates the Municipal Court grab. But, as always, the master outdoes the man. Penrose has found the perfect halo. It encircles his classic brow on his newest campaign button—"Safety First." The best advertised phrase of the year, appealing, reassuring, yet gloriously abstract; how well it goes with Penrose. "Safety First." But whose?

Mexico Labors in Transition

WHETHER or not Huerta and his government would have brought order out of chaos in Mexico if the ex-dictator had received the aid and recognition of the United States is no longer a question in the minds of serious students of Mexican history and affairs. The struggle of the Constitutionalists has not been a bandit raid upon their country in the name of revolution. It is the same struggle which inspired Hidalgo and Morelos and Guero and Juarez and a host of other patriots in their fight against the tyranny of Spain and the oppression of the privileged class in their own country. It is the same struggle which sounded the death knell of feudalism in Europe before the advent of the modern industrial era, and it is the same struggle which inspired the American colonists in their battle for political and economic independence. Mexico, the country of early Spanish superstition and despotism, and, later, private exploitation and betrayal, is just waking up to the fact that feudalism is not the last stage of human progress. At last she stands upon the threshold of a new era. The transition, because of its long delay, is being accompanied by unusual hard labor and suffering. It will be accomplished in the end.

Music Teachers Come to Their Own

THE laying of the cornerstone of a home for retired music teachers in Germantown is the only another sign that the American pedagogic music is at last coming into its own. The biggest portent of all is the war cloud over Europe. Hitherto the foreign teacher has had everything his own way. The prestige of the Continent led every American pupil who could afford it to take the long journey overseas. Now it will be a reckless parent, indeed, that will trust a son or daughter to the chances of Italian neutrality, while it is doubtful if either conservatory or private teachers will be doing business in Germany, France or England. Our American teachers may not be the equals of the European; they have never had the material with which to prove their abilities. Now is their chance. If they know their art, what they call the myth of Continental training will be exploded for all time.

Stage Set for Republicanism

AREBOUND toward conservatism is apparent throughout the United States. The war has sobered public opinion. In fact, even before the war sentiment was veering away from the experimenters who imagined that the only sure way to further morality was to change the form of government. But this return to common sense does not mean a return to Penroseism and the other kind of "isms" which were so emphatically repudiated, first in 1910 and later in 1912. The people have learned that they can have simple honesty without fanaticism, and they are going to insist on having it. The stage is set for a triumphant revival of militant Republicanism. Everywhere men are asking themselves if it is worth while to think more of foreigners' trade with us than of our own trade with foreigners. They are more determined than ever to make this nation absolutely independent in a manufacturing way. They are ready to go forward in constructive enterprise; they are anxious to begin again the upbuilding which has temporarily lagged. They will not hesitate to vote their convictions at the polls if assured of honest and faithful leadership, of capable instruments to carry out their wishes. If Pennsylvania indorses Penroseism it will merely convince the nation that there is more to be done before the Republican party can be entrusted with the conduct of the Government. The defeat of Penroseism, on the other hand, will convince good Republicans everywhere that their opportunity is at last at hand.

The "Good Fellow" Has a Smashing Bid

THE American public, it has been said, is a "good fellow." Whether or not Kipling was right when he asserted that our people are indifferent to liberty and equality, but insist on fraternity, good fellowship seems to be characteristic of American manners. It is largely through this natural disposition of the public that the political boss has climbed into power and, in many cases, remained there. What he has secured for his constituents has been appreciated and thanks have been duly rendered. "Pork" in a rivers and harbors bill, a bank check for charity, a barrel of flour for a workless and wageless voter—by such means the corruptionist in politics retains popularity with that "good fellow," the public. But even in a "good fellow" the spirit of rebellion is not dead. There may come to him a recognition of the fact that he has been imposed upon, that the other "good fellow" has gone too far. It is humiliating, maddening, to be made a means to an end. In politics the rebuke can be administered at the polls.

PASSED BY THE CENSOR

THE HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD, better known as "Honey Fitz," the man who made Boston famous and placed the Sacred Codfish on the map, or vice versa, is a fighting Irishman, who does what is exactly opposite to accepted standards. Himself a Democratic boss, he whipped his fellow bosses. Defeated for Mayor he "came back" and was re-elected. In fact, he is akin to Gilbert K. Chesterton, the English wit, of whom some one wrote in the American Magazine: When plain folk such as you and I see the sun setting in the sky. We think it is the setting sun; But Mr. Gilbert Chesterton is not so easily misled. He calmly stands upon his head And upside down obtains a new And Chesteronian point of view. Observing thus how from his nose The sun creeps nearer to his nose, He cries with wonder and delight, "How good the sunrise is tonight!" It is so with "Honey Fitz." Retired from the office of Mayor, he sought new fields to conquer, and found them—in a clothing shop near Scollay Square, where Fitz now fits men.

Daylight Kills a Grab

ORDINARY citizens may be in doubt concerning the plans of the Organization "to make a killing" through the acquisition of land and palaces for the Municipal Court, but the Organization itself knows what it wants. The architects were not asked to draw plans for one building on a corner lot. The project involves an entire city block. Not only will the building of the one structure provided for in the loan bill increase immediately the cost of the land which the city will have to acquire later, but it will enhance greatly the value of all property in the vicinity. This does not imply real estate speculation, for it is not speculation when men gamble on a "sure thing."

Old Issues in New Primaries

NEW YORK holds its first primaries today. It will doubtless afford some relief to the voters of that State to use the opportunity of thinning out the number of candidates for the Governorship and certain other offices. There have been so much brawling and billingsgate and general confusion that the voters will be lucky if they can see any issue at all except the old ones of Tammany and Barnesism. But these old ones still need attention, and today the principal issue at the polls is good citizenship.

Shocks From Ice Cream Plunges

ICE CREAM has won official standing as a food. It used to be considered a sort of thermal dehauch; you expended untold pounds of energy in melting it. The cream value was nothing compared with the waste in bringing it up to the temperature of the human interior. But some of the doctors have changed all that. Ice cream is now the best number on the program, the perfect close to the alimentary entertainment. And it is that same chilliness which does the trick. The ice acts like a cold plunge in the morning, a shock which leaves the stomach in a glow of reaction. Such is the new theory that has made triumphant progress among the young. Yet a doubt remains. A bath is a shock, but it is sudden, brief. You don't have to sit in the water until you've raised it to your own temperature. Ice cream is different.

Children Point the Way to Health

THE public schools are the big field for social sanitation. Proper treatment of the school child brings us close to the source. There disease can be discovered and cured before it has wrecked life. Scientific school hygiene means finding the best environment for the physical and mental growth of the child. It means correcting physical defects while they are still remediable. It is useful in bringing standards of right living into homes without them, homes where disease otherwise breeds and spreads. The child is the easiest and most fruitful avenue to public health.

Peace Earned, Not Bestowed

REWARDS are promised peacemakers in the future, but here they have their own troubles. Various are the peace theories in these days of war. Some would enter into compacts of fellowship and enforce them with soldiers. Others would make treaties by signing a paper which in times of trouble is likely to be trampled under the feet of armies. Another peace party would cultivate public opinion against the horrors of war. All these theories are good while the nations keep sweet, but once they grow angry ideas of federation disappear like frost before fire. Peacemakers, however, look forward to the realization of a golden dream, and deserve encouragement. In the meantime, let us remember that peace is something earned, not bestowed; that the fighting blood of the animal cannot be changed by resolutions or legislative enactment. Peace is one of the ripe fruits of the eternal spirit.

Pair of Stout Pajamas Saved Sir John Jellicoe

A PAIR of stout pajamas saved Sir John Jellicoe, commander-in-chief of Britain's navy, from a damp and watery grave. In June, 1913, when still a mere commander, Jellicoe lay desperately ill from fever in his bunk aboard the battleship Victoria when the alarm was given and Jellicoe rushed to the bridge, though delirious. A moment later, with the sailors standing in proud line, as befits seamen, singing their national anthem, the great ship gave a heave and plunged into the depths of Tripoli. Jellicoe was drawn down by the suction and would have been drowned but for the presence of an expansive pajama going down into the waves, the unknown made a wild grasp, managed to get a hold, and swam toward the rescuing boats not knowing whom he had saved. That is why Jellicoe lives to have this tale told about him. BRADFORD.

Curiosity Shop

The Mazda incandescent lamps now in common use are named after Mazda, goddess of light, the deity of the Zoroastrians, or Mazdaists. The character of Zoroaster furnishes the theme for an absorbing and exquisitely poetic romance by F. Marion Crawford, the American author, who spent many years in Eastern countries. The skeptical phrase, "Tell that to the marines," originated in England, where the sailors poked fun at the lack of sea knowledge on the part of the marines. Lord Byron in his poem, "The Island," makes use of the phrase: "Right," quoth Ben, "that will do for the marines." In the early part of the last century, some wise men of Southampton, England, cut a ditch for barges between their city and Redbridge. But because of the high dunes, the canal was never used, and the wisdom of the builders was compared to that of the man who cut two holes in the walls of his house, one for the mother cat and the other for the kittens.

IN A SPIRIT OF HUMOR

If those Mexican belligerents aren't careful, somebody will have them arrested for disturbing the peace. The Hesitation To tea or not to tea, that is the tango; Whether 'tis better in the maxixe to suffer The sings and whirlings of the Texas Tommy. Or to press arms against a sea of chiffon, And by opposing tend it. To dance, to dip— And by that dip to say we end The two-step, waltz, and thousand natural steps. That dance is heir to? To dip, to slip. To slip! Perchance to fall—aye, there's the rub! For in that fall what steps may come When we have shuffled off our mortal feet Makes us give pause— And rather dance those steps we've learned Than rush to others that we know not of.

Extend the Possibilities

The "Buy-a-bale-of-cotton" movement can be extended indefinitely. It is not merely the South that needs assistance. For example: Buy a freight car and help the railway equipment companies. Buy a tank of petroleum and help John D. Rockefeller. Buy a steel rail and help Andrew Carnegie. Buy a haystack and help the indigent farmer. We were about to add something about buying a ton of coal to help the coal corporations, but the subject is too sacred.

True Enough

"There is quite a change in the weather," remarked the Optimistic Individual. "There always is," added the Cheerful Pessimist.

The Secret Out

Fairmont (after a few puffs)—I thought you said these were choice cigars. Wisahickon—That's what I said—my wife.

Of Course

"A mad dog ran into the smithy today," said the village blacksmith casually. "Heavens!" ejaculated his wife, "what did you do?" "Aw—we shoed him."

One Might

This we may say for Mexico's way is sliding: One time first they were sliding; Who now is weighted down with woes And with the end may be colliding; This may we say—that one might mention Him—of course, we mean Carranza— Unlike his fellow countrymen— And get him in a single stanza. And likewise him who soon may billa. First villa; referring now to Villa.

A la Sherman

Night Watchman (in any European town)—Eight o'clock—and all's hell.—Life.

In Doubt

Caller—Is your daughter an equestrian? Friend—Either that or a victrolarian. These class officers are so confusing, don't you know.—Buffalo Express.

It All Depends

Examiner—Now, William, if a man can do one-fourth of a piece of work in two days, how long will he take to finish it? William—Is it a contract job or is he workin' by the day?—Life.

Score One for Pa

Willie—Paw, what is a monologue? Paw—A conversation between a man and his wife, my son. Maw—Willie, you go do your lessons.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Terpichore's Triumph

"Isn't there a proverb about those who hesitate being lost?" "Yes," replied the frivolous youth. "But I'm not a hesitating person. The one-step is good enough for me."—Washington Star.

A Rondeau of Babies

As you must know, some men there be Who flaunt the fact that they are free From nursery thralldom; off they cry (As though to prove an alibi), "All babies look alike to me!" To such a man, the fates decree The storis shall come in groups of three. It does no good to know or fly. As you must know.

All Babies Look Alike? Ah, Me!

When they arrive, I will foresee He'll gain a more discerning eye. Or else he will discreetly try With wisdom's power to agree. As you must know.—Burgess Johnson in Judge.

Affliction

Muggins—I feel so sorry for BJones. He's as deaf as a post. Buggins—Oh, there are worse afflictions than mere deafness. Muggins—Yes, but he has always been so fond of hearing himself talk.—New York Mail.

Correctly Misunderstood

Examiner—Now, speak up, boy. Do you know what nasal organ means? Boy—No, sir. Examiner—Correct!—London Opinion.

The Mysterious Keats

The little agricultural village had been billed with a lecture on Keats for over a fortnight. The evening arrived at length, bringing the lecturer ready to discourse on the poet. The advertised chairman, taken ill at the last moment, was replaced by a local farmer. This worthy introduced the lecturer and terminated his remarks by saying: "And now, my friends, we shall soon all know what I personally have often wondered—what are Keats?"—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

The Bacilli Craze

"We are going to give up having Johnny get an education." "For what reason?" "Well, we can't get him sterilized every morning in time to go to school."—Puck.

He Knew the Car

"You are charged with giving assistance to the enemy?" "They have your automobile." "They took it forcibly. Besides, it won't assist them any."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

DONE IN PHILADELPHIA

FOR the last five years there has been an agitation for the restoration of the carrying trade of Philadelphia, and already the movement is displaying signs of bearing fruit. It is a problem that will only be solved by the years to come, whether the port ever will regain its proud place as the foremost in the United States. The other day we considered the causes that led to the flight of the American flag from the sea during the period of the Civil War, and now we might take a glance at the alleged reasons why Philadelphia, in 1820 the leading port of this country, should surrender her place on the list.

OUR recent agitation was anticipated as far back as the middle of the last century. Great expectations from the completion of the Pennsylvania Railroad were common. It was believed the trans-Alleghenian line would pave the way for this increase of commerce and attempts were made to interest capital in the establishment of new steamship lines between Philadelphia and Liverpool and London.

REMEMBER reading the very pointed reasons for this diversion of our trade written by Richard Rush, who had been our Minister to London and to Paris and was a patriotic and loyal Philadelphian. However, he did not spare his compatriots in his explanation of our loss of trade. His chief reason was what he called the prevalence of "Rip Van Winkleism" here.

"New York," he wrote to Job R. Tyson, who was sending letters to the newspapers in his enthusiastic attempt to arouse interest in the plan, "is awake to it all. Most wisely has she kept awake ever since De Witt Clinton, the Livingstons and Gouverneur Morris planned her first great canal, which others rallied at as visionary. Boston is awake. All mankind are awake. A new existence has been sprung upon the world. We sleep on—sleep on—sleep on, content, delighted, at being the second American city after having long been the first, and when we could have become the first again, because nature and geography have written it down.

W quietly and complacently turn away from that decree. London is 60 miles or more from the sea, and for a thousand years had fourfold the difficulties of navigation in reaching it through the Thames that Philadelphia had ever had in being reached through the Delaware. The worst thought of all is that we shall, in the end, find ourselves in a worse place than to be only the second city, if we go to sleep; since to be falling back, relatively, in this age of progress, is, in effect, to sink."

THE man who warned President Monroe of the workings of the European alliance that caused the enunciation of the now historic Monroe Doctrine did not mince matters when calling his fellow townsmen to account for their weakness.

In the course of the same movement, William Peter, the British Consul here, who had been approached on the subject with the idea of having him interest British capital in steamship lines, wrote much the same thing, but of course, tempered his pen a little. He put down the advance of New York to "superior pluck and energy." "While Pennsylvania has placed her chief reliance on legislation," he added, "New York has placed hers on self-exertion."

This taking account of stock could not have been very agreeable to the Philadelphians of 1850, but the course of treatment did them a great deal of good. Job R. Tyson attributed the decline of our trade to quite other causes. He declared that the State and private capital had frittered away many millions of dollars in numerous canal schemes; that the Erie Canal had diverted the Western trade from Philadelphia by reason of its continuous route to the sea, while our Western connection of part rail and part canal was a distinct disadvantage to the commerce it had been designed to assist.

HE DECLARED that a too cautious Legislature had prevented banking capital from being more than one-fourth what it was in New York, and that although the Bank of the United States was located in Philadelphia it "did not render such accommodations to the business community here as were favorable to the growth of the foreign and the enlargement of the coasting trade."

With the completion of the Erie Canal many of the most enterprising Philadelphia merchants transferred their business and their capital to New York, and it was shown that one-third of the investments in New York shipping in 1850 was owned by Philadelphians.

HOWEVER, even in those days this city was the chief manufacturing city in the country, and it was believed that when the Pennsylvania Railroad was completed and the primitive inclined planes and canals were replaced by a continuous roadbed, commerce would return to this city.

The Pennsylvania Railroad was completed in 1848, and its advent did prove a factor in bettering the commerce of the port for a quarter of a century, and then the carrying trade began to fall off again.

The outlook, however, is far brighter now than it was when Richard Rush and others were trying to arouse the civic pride of Philadelphia capitalists 60 years ago.

GRANVILLE.

Reviving Personal Combat

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. We observe that Generals Villa and Obregon came near to a personal encounter a day or two ago. They had words and rushed at each other and were "with difficulty restrained." Why in the name of humanity did anybody restrain them? Two generals in personally conducted warfare would be a spectacle to cheer up all the privates everywhere.

THE IDEALIST

When trouble comes a very peculiar personal trait asserts itself. This trait is born of the falling from which nearly all fall in spring—the falling of keeping the mind on self.

One thinks that his or her troubles are the worst in the world. The tendency is to lose sight of the fact that other folks have troubles just as serious. When the troubled mind accepts this truth its own burden becomes lighter.

An old Philadelphia minister frequently told his congregation, "Friends, no matter how badly you feel about something, just remember that there are other souls whose troubles are vastly deeper than yours."

No matter how serious your trouble, it is only a simple mental process to convince it of being worse. The thing to do is to thank your lucky stars that it does not reach the limit—or near the limit—of your own imagination.

A young girl lay on a bed of pain. Her

temperament was of the worrying type, and, of course, this heightened her pain. The old family physician noted this. As he left her room on one of his daily visits he casually offered her some information on this afternoon which she had to amputate a boy's leg.

No, the young lady did not launch into a tirade against the countless sorrows of the world. She just grew a trifle sadder, in sympathetic contemplation of the fact that after she took her mind away from self, in doing which she had discovered the real secret of lightening her burdens.

VIEWS OF READERS

ON TIMELY TOPICS

Contributions That Reflect Public Opinion on Subjects Important to City, State and Nation.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—The splendid work of the EVENING LEDGER in calling attention to the child labor evil at this time should result in great good for the working classes of Pennsylvania.

This is a most opportune time and the necessity for every voter ascertaining exactly how the candidates for the State Senate and House of Representatives in the district in which he votes stand upon the question of an eight-hour day and the abolition of night work for children under 16. The Association feels that every man who is running for office and is not willing to pledge himself to vote for these two provisions should be defeated. * * *

It is a favorite contention of the manufacturers and other employers of children that they cannot work above the children more than eight hours a day and their children under 16 only eight hours. This is not true. If any manufacturer will only show a willingness so to arrange his schedule as to keep the children busy eight hours and the machines and other employes a longer time, he will find that it is a comparatively simple matter. This was very clearly proven in Massachusetts. In that State they passed a law upon the question of night effect last September, containing much the same provisions as I have outlined for the proposed legislation in Pennsylvania. At once there were no more children upon the machines that they would have to discharge all children under 16. The law went into effect on the first of last September, and on that date there were no more children working under 16 in the industries of Massachusetts and New Jersey. * * *

Child labor is at once the cheapest and dearest form of labor. Manufacturers and others are not willing to pledge money to get them at a small price. But when one considers their wastefulness and inattention, there is a considerable financial offset, and by sapping the strength of the young manhood and young womanhood of the State, through working the children long hours, a price is paid in the deteriorating standard of humanity which makes child labor the dearest form of labor that any one can employ.

DR. J. LYNN BARNARD, Chairman Educational Committee Pennsylvania Child Labor Association.

MEXICAN VIEWS—VERDE

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Better let the soldiers stay Down in Mexico, while they cannot work above the children more than eight hours a day and their children under 16 only eight hours. This is not true. If any manufacturer will only show a willingness so to arrange his schedule as to keep the children busy eight hours and the machines and other employes a longer time, he will find that it is a comparatively simple matter. This was very clearly proven in Massachusetts. In that State they passed a law upon the question of night effect last September, containing much the same provisions as I have outlined for the proposed legislation in Pennsylvania. At once there were no more children upon the machines that they would have to discharge all children under 16. The law went into effect on the first of last September, and on that date there were no more children working under 16 in the industries of Massachusetts and New Jersey. * * *

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THE HEEDLESS SHOPPER

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—I was very glad to see the letter of "A Discontented Shopper" in the EVENING LEDGER Saturday. It hit me at a big will, better than it seems. I know, because I have offended. Thoughtlessly, inconsiderately, I have caught myself treating shopgirls with just the civility that she complains of, and treating them with a hundred more than I should. Too often we purchasers are thinking only of saving a cent or two or getting away in time for tea. When I hear other women talk of cross, unbending shopgirls, I think of how much I have unconsciously contributed to their "nerves" and their troubles. M. L. S. Newark, N. J., September 27, 1914.

THE AGONY COLUMN

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—I was much interested to read in Saturday's EVENING LEDGER of the present state of the "personal" or "agony" columns of the London papers. Has any reader, I wonder, any experience of such a curious institution in our press? Sherlock Holmes speaks of it in one of Conan Doyle's stories as a medium of communication between criminals. Perhaps that is why our papers have not cultivated it. Philadelphia, September 27, 1914.

NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW

It is an excellent thing to find bankers in all parts of the country explaining, excusing and defending their position. They never were under any such compulsion before.—New York World.

We naturally regret the new rupture between Carranza and Villa, but we do not regard it as a defeat of American diplomacy or as evidence that President Wilson's policy toward Mexico was wrong in principle or in application.—Richmond News Leader.

It is important that the business men of the United States should "go steady" with the South American trade, but something should be done also about the Mexican trade. Commerce has been almost at a standstill in that unhappy country for several years.—Louisville Evening Post.

It begins to look as if the scheme of Deau Lewis and other Progressive leaders in Pennsylvania to turn over the progressive hand and foot to the Democratic machine in that State will result in incalculable benefit to Senator Penrose, the man of all men upon whom the Progressives have lavished their bitterest denunciation.—Springfield, Mass., Union.

Colonel Roosevelt's Wichita speech revealed one of the reasons for his continuing influence in the country. A man who stands intelligently and effectively for justice to employes and employer alike, who has the courage to speak out when either side takes a wrong position, who is daunted neither by the millionaire nor the powerful politician, must always be a powerful factor in affairs.—Kansas City Star.

Since it has not always been the fortune of the Sun to approve the work of Mr. Bryan in the State Department, we have a certain measure of pleasure in the fact that the country, the patience and the success with which that department has helped many thousands of Americans to trace their friends in Europe, has had the tangle of mobilization and war.—New York Sun.